

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 /078 W
-----120550Z 019728 /14

R 111610Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4562
AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1280

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, WB, GE, US, UK, FR, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIETS PRAISE CURRENT RELAXATION IN BERLIN,
BUT DEPLORE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE

SUMMARY. IN RECENT DAYS SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMED US OF THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE SITUATION IN BERLIN NOW AND OVER THE PAST TWO MONTHS. THERE HAS INDEED BEEN A MINI-ERA OF GOOD RELATIONS, WHICH HAS MANIFESTED ITSELF IN SOVIET COOPERATIVENESS IN SOLVING CERTAIN LONG STANDING ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS IN SPANDAU AND IN BASC. BUT ON MAY 10 SOVIET MINISTER KHOTULEV EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE AT WESTERN SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE ON BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

1. ON TWO RECENT OCCASIONS THIS WEEK FIRST SECRETARY TYUTYUNOV HAS CALLED MISSION OFFICERS' ATTENTION TO THE ABSENCE OF SOVIET EMBASSY PROTESTS TO US. HE WAS PLEASED WITH THIS DEVELOPMENT WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO A LESSENING
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OF QUESTIONABLE FRG ACTIVITIES IN BERLIN. HE SAID THAT OCCASIONAL WEST GERMAN MEETINGS HERE WERE ALL RIGHT, BUT WHEN THEY "BUNCHED UP," AS IN EARLY 1977, THEY DESTROYED THE EQUILIBRIUM. SOVIET MINISTER KNOTULEV ALSO EXPRESSED SIMILAR SATISFACTION WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION, WITHOUT SPECIFYING WHY IT WAS SO GOOD.

2. BOTH KHOTULEV AND TYUTYUNOV CALLED ATTENTION TO AMBASSADOR AMBRASIMOV'S FAVORABLE REMARKS ABOUT THE NEW SENAT UNDER MAYOR STOBBE (USBER 1259), WHICH THEY REITERATED.

3. IN FACT THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN FORTHCOMING IN SOME MATTERS ON THE LOCAL SCENE. IN RECENT MEETINGS THEY HAVE AGREED WITH THE ALLIES IN PERMITTING SOME LONG DESRIED CHANGES IN THE PRISONER REGIME AT SAPNDAU AND IN BASC AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL PROCEDURES GOVERNING LOT FLIGHTS. (WHICH ARE UNIQUE IN THAT A BLOC CARRIER ADHERES TO PROCEDURES WHICH STRENGTHEN OUR CONCEPT OF THE BERLIN AIR REGIME.) THEY HAVE LATELY BEEN DEMANDEURS ONLY ON THE GDR REICHSBAHN TARIFF INCREASE ISSUE, WHICH THEY ARE STILL PURSUING ONLY INFORMALLY. THEY SIMPLY DO NOT MENTION OTHER PROBLEMS.

4. AT CZECH HOLIDAY PARTY ON MAY 10 BOTH KHOTULEV AND TYUTYUNOV CRITICIZED THE ALLIED SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE ON BERLIN, ALTHOUGH IN A MILD WAY. TYUTYUNOV OFFERED THE RATHER LUNATIC CRITICISM THAT IT WAS "UNBALANCED" BECAUSE IT HAD NOT INCLUDED THE STATEMENT THAT BERLIN COULD NOT BE GOVERNED BY THE FRG. KHOTULEV SAID THE COMMUNIQUE WAS HARSH, AND THIS COMBINED WITH THE TIMING DISTURBED HIM. WE EXPLAINED TIMING AS OBVIOUSLY FLOWING FROM SUMMIT, AND CHARACTERIZED STATEMENT AS REPETITION OF WELL KNOWN WESTERN VIEWS WHICH WERE BY NO MEANS STARNGE TO SOVIET EMBASSY. KHOTULEV REPLIED COMMUNIQUE OF THIS SCOPE WAS UNNECESSARY, AND IT WOULD JUST REQUIRE CONFIDENTIAL

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THE SOVIETS TO RESPOND IN KIND. THE GDR WOULD ALSO HAVE TO REPLY. THIS WOULD MAKE EVERYTHING "TOO IDEOLOGICAL," WHEREAS WE SHOULD BE PRAGMATIC ON BERLIN. WE AGREED THAT PRAGMATISM ON BOTH SIDES WAS A VIRTUE IN BERLIN. GOERGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DETENTE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, STATUS OF BERLIN, SUMMIT MEETINGS, COMMUNIQUE, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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